

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



April 5, 2013

GA2012-27

Bret Lane, Senior Vice President  
Southern California Gas Company  
Gas Operations and System Integrity  
555 W. Fifth Street, GT21C3  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

SUBJECT: General Order 112-E Audit of the Southern California Gas Company's West Area Gas Transmission facilities.

Dear Mr. Lane:

The staff of Safety and Enforcement Division (SED), formerly called Consumer Protection and Safety Division, of the California Public Utilities Commission conducted a General Order (G.O) 112-E audit of Southern California Gas Company's (SoCalGas) West Area Gas Transmission facilities on August 21-24, and August 27-31, 2012. This audit included review of records for Brea, Goleta, Olympic/ Pico, Saticoy, Ventura/ Oxnard, Taft and Valencia districts for the period of May 2011 through August 2012 and field inspections of various gas transmission pipeline facilities.

SED staff did not find any probable violations in the audit. However, SED staff observed some potential issues and made some recommendations. Please review the attached document "SoCalGas West Area Transmission Audit Observation Summary" which contains SED's observations. Please provide a written response within 30 days of your receipt of this letter indicating measures taken by SoCalGas to address the observations noted.

If you have any questions, please call Matthewson Epuna at (213) 576-7014 or Joel Tran at (213) 576-7094

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael Robertson".

Michael Robertson, Program Manager  
Gas Safety and Reliability Branch  
Safety and Enforcement Division

cc: Joel Tran, SED/GSRB

## SoCalGas' West Area Transmission Audit Observations Summary August 21-24 and August 27-31, 2012

### A. Audit Observations Identified at a Producer Site in Brea District

On August 27, 2012, SED staff conducted a field inspection of SoCalGas' facilities at Vintage La Habra Producer site (#5450). During the inspection, SED staff observed that the producer's gas delivery flow panel indicator had a 110 degrees Fahrenheit readout. SoCalGas Gas Standard 188.0001, Standard Specifications for Natural and Substitute Fuel Gases (GAS QUALITY SPECIFICATION), paragraph 4.12. "Delivery Temperature" states:

*"4.12.1. The gas delivery temperature is not to be below 50°F or above 105°F."*

SoCalGas explained that it has an alarm monitoring device that will shut in the producer if the alarm senses out of tolerance parameters (e.g. elevated temperature), but the high temperature alarm did not activate in this case. It was not clear if the temperature measuring device was out of tolerance, defective or in good working condition. SED staff recommended that SoCalGas inspect the monitoring instruments, calibrate and verify that it is functioning as appropriate.

### B. Audit Observations Identified in Taft and Oxnard Districts

SED staff observed some locations with missing pipeline markers. Please restore the missing pipeline markers and ensure that pipeline markers are placed appropriately wherever necessary to identify the locations of gas pipelines.